

Northwest Kansas Regional Homeland Security Council Meeting
Sheridan County EMS Bldg, Hoxie, Kansas
June 13, 2006

Call to Order: Debbie Hays, Region Chair, called the June 13, 2006 meeting of the Northwest Kansas Regional Homeland Security Council to order at 10:00. Introductions were made. Subject matter experts in attendance were welcomed. With only 13 members in attendance, quorum is not present. As a result, the business agenda will be suspended and we will move on to presentations.

MOCOM is a system developed by a group of law enforcement personnel. Under Sheriff Jason Moses, Thomas County SO presented an overview of the system. Region I has a majority of entities operating on VHF. MOCOM would be a private channel specific to our needs. It would give us the ability to reestablish dispatch to dispatch communications by giving us a common frequency in our areas. It is a simplex system and interest extends as far East as Russell County. Several counties have system set up completed; some are waiting for funding or approval for purchase. Jason Moses has established an email contact list for updates on the progress of the system. Using grant funding was discussed. At least 10% of funding has to go to EMS. This would be a possible venue for those funds. Jason Moses left information for those needing more information.

Brian Archer, D.V.M. – USDA- presented “Protecting Kansas Livestock with the Kansas Plan for Foreign Animal Disease Emergencies”- (FAD). It is critical local entities be prepared for immediate response to an incident. If we had an incident, it would first be observed by livestock producers and could be in the US five days prior to the first observed animals. A national exercise tracked movement of livestock in the US and found 23 states could be potentially effected within those first five days. The Kansas plan goal is to have affected animals appraised, euthanized and buried within 48 hours. It would take everyone’s cooperation to achieve this. Kansas is the #2 cattle producing (cattle on feed) state in the US following Texas. Foreign Animal Diseases was defined and cardinal signs for foreign animal disease were presented. Of major concern is foot and mouth disease. Threat and impact was discussed. How we protect and stop the spread is identified in the plan. If quarantine is warranted, that is, surveillance identifies exposed and infected livestock; an initial square mile diameter is secured around the area. This would translate into large numbers of intersections requiring security and stretching law enforcement thin. Local involvement would include providing support of the state plan. Critical needs would include heavy equipment for burial of animals and burial grounds. (There is currently a program where individuals can request evaluation of their operation to assist in identification of possible needs and locations.) Any FAD would be considered a terrorist event until determined otherwise. Local law enforcement would be required to coordinate with Highway Patrol to secure areas and assist the KBI and FBI in criminal investigations. The National Guard will be called to assist. HazMat and fire would typically be assisting in decontamination. Disinfectant materials are available from the state. EMS and hospitals should expect increase in emergency calls. Public Works would be asked to control all intersections in the secured area with barriers and signs. USDA, Farm Services and SRS/Social Services would be asked to respond. It is important each county has a plan and many already do. It is time to exercise the plan and talk to all the involved producers. These exercises can be used for all livestock events. It is very similar to pandemic flu preparation in Public Health events. A rapid and organized local response is critical to minimize the potential devastating impact.

Toby Prine reported the Regional Council Leadership Summit begins Thursday evening, June 15, 2006 in Salina and continues Friday, June 16, 2006. Deb Hays and Steve Hirsch will be attending. We hope this meeting will answer many of the questions we have on OG&T funds. The Adjutant General, Maj Gen Tod Bunting, Colonel William R. Seck, Kansas Highway Patrol, KDHE, and Captain Mark Bruce, Kansas Highway Patrol, will be presenting requirements for fund handling. Following this meeting, Toby Prine will send a synopsis of that information out to Region Council members.

A Kansas Incident Management Team slide presentation was given by Toby Prine. There will be a meeting of interested entities on June 28, 2006 in Salina. Steve Hirsch and Kerry McCue will be attending. The IMT is composed of a multi-agency individuals trained to assume ICS command and general staff positions. They could bring that training and experience into your local jurisdiction to assist during an emergency incident. They define the incidents with typing: Type 1 is a National and State incident and involved the largest number of individuals, Type 2 would be a step down and Type 3 is a state level response. Type 4 is an urban, city, county or regional response, and

Type 5 is a local, village and township. Our initial thought is to establish an original goal of training a Type 4 response team. The US Fire Administration is going to be offering 56 IMT Type 3 training sessions in 2006. It was their recommendation we try to put together a Type 4 and then eventually train up to a Type 3. The Type 4 members will all need to complete the 6-day "Command and General Staff Functions in ICS" and the 2-day "Introduction to Unified Command for Multi-agency and Catastrophic Incident" courses. A goal is 8 individuals per region to fill the command and general staff positions and then perhaps deputy positions. The predicted cost is about \$10,000.00 for training. The goal is a consistent statewide self-sufficient system. Further questions will be discussed in Salina.

OG & T Funding: Regional Funds for the Northwest Region is \$420,830.00. That includes the management and administration fund of \$12,625.00. That fund includes payment for our fiscal agent as the Regional Council is not a legal governing body. Some counties have voiced their willingness to serve in this capacity. Ellis County has already gotten county vote to submit a proposal. Counties wanting to submit a proposal to act as fiscal agent need to get County Commissioner approval and submit a proposal to the Regional Council. \$408,206.00 is available for projects. The Kansas Highway Patrol Homeland Security Operations FY 06 Funding Availability charts were distributed. This document explains investment types and eligible recipients. Clarification on acronyms utilized: SHSP; State Homeland Security Program, LETPP; Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program, CCP; Citizen Corp Program, is Metropolitan Medical Response System. The Regional Groups are eligible for specific investment types only. An example of an investment type is Interoperable Communications and Integrated Technology. If the Region would decide to invest in communication systems for each county, it would fall under that investment type. Our Regional Council will need to select investment types.

Contact Toby Prine if you have questions for the State. He is our liaison between the Council and State entities.

A PowerPoint on Incident Command System training level requirements was presented. The ICS 100 and IS 700 are required for all entities in each county who are listed in the county plan as a responder in any emergency event at the local level. Those individuals serving as unit leaders, single resource leaders, crew supervisors, or initial management of an incident are required to take the IS 200 course in addition to the 100 and 700. As you move up the Incident Command chart, all EOC staff members, strike team and task force leaders, branch directors, and division/group supervisors are required to additionally take the IS 300 and IS 800. EOC command and general staff members and EOC managers are required to have all of the above courses as well as the ICS 400.

The ICS 100 and IS 700 are required of all individuals involved by September 30, 2006. In Northwest Kansas, there are very few individuals who would remain at the basic responder level. Because of our low numbers, people must assume higher level positions. The IS 300 and IS 400 are both multi-day (4-5 day courses). The greatest concern for training is our County and City Commission. They are the top level of the EOC command. The County Clerk, County Treasurer, PIO, etc. must also have this training. The County Plans identify individuals in these rolls. The Emergency Managers in each county are required to keep a folder of certificates showing the level of training of each individual identified in their county plan. The Emergency Managers have to sign each year that this training has been completed and certificates are on file. These files are subject to audit.

The federal NIMS integration center has stated if a county is not NIMS compliant, the county will not receive any federal preparedness funding. These funds include highway funds, school funds, airport money, etc. The Emergency Managers in each county have been given this information and are responsible for ensuring their counties are compliant. The counties have a statutory requirement to have an Emergency Preparedness organization, which includes an effective Emergency Manager capable of putting in the hours required for the position. The buck stops with the County Commissioners. Where they did not face any particular penalty for this in the past, not meeting compliance at this time is not an option. How we are going to do it out here is up to us, but it has to be done. Very few City Commissions have received information about this, and as an example, airport funds are at risk for these cities. As a Region Council, we will need to have NIMS compliant proof prior to any county getting project funding. We have to realize this is Kansas law.

There is a meeting of Emergency Managers July 26, 2006 in Colby and July 27, 2006 in Hays to roll out the Kansas county NIMS compliant plan templates. It also has specific annexes to satisfy FAD, pandemic flu, etc. to allow these to all be coordinated. Individual counties will have to insert their data.

The next meeting of the Northwest Kansas Regional Homeland Security Council meeting will be July 25, 2006 at 10:00 at the Sheridan County EMS bldg in Hoxie.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Kaufman, Secretary